

Community Happenings

The April Community Event was a fabulous time! Kudos to all who made a point to come meet others in the community while the children did their Easter Egg Hunts.

Save the Date

Our next Community Event this month: Saturday, May 20, 2017: The 2nd Annual Legends Ranch Crawfish Festival. Stay tuned for details on its exact time and options to purchase crawfish plates in advance. Similar to last year, the Legends Ranch Social Committee has planned for the venue to be located at the SplashPad basketball court area, with music, bouncing castles and with the SplashPad sprayground area open too!

Our next P.O.A. Board Meeting this month: Tuesday, May 30, 2017: Property Owner's Association Board Meeting session that is open to all who reside in Legends Ranch, located at the front Clubhouse, held in the evening. Please see Property Management to confirm if it will be at 6:00 or 7:00 p.m., and if you would like to see the Meeting Agenda in advance (they maintain an email distribution list for e-blasts from Spectrum).

Attention Parents of Graduating Seniors!

We would like to recognize our graduating seniors by including a small picture and a few lines about where your child will be attending college. Please send your information to articles@peelinc.com (include the newsletter you would like to recognize them in, photo, name, etc).



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Submit Articles.....legendsranch@peelinc.com
Publisher

Peel, Inc. www.PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444 Advertising....... advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

POA of Legends Ranch



Welcome Our New Security Company

Attention Homeowners of Legends Ranch;

As of May 1st we will welcome Securitas Securities as our new onsite security company. We are excited to make this change and expect great improvements with them in place.

With this change in security, we want to remind the residents of some things to prepare for. To assist all parties in this transition, please:

- Be sure to register any new vehicles, EZ Tags, etc. with our Onsite mgmt. reps.
- Update your phone numbers and any guest entries with GateHouse

• Be prepared to show your ID when using Lane 1 New post orders will be made available for resident review after May 1. Please feel free to contact us should you

have any questions about this change at 281-681-9750.





RANCH REVIEW The Minimalist Gardener

May 2017



This month, remove the dead Crape myrtle flowers to force more flower growth.

Fruit trees need lots of water now.

Vegetables: Heat tolerant vegetables can be planted now. Among these are sweet potatoes, pumpkins, squashes, and southern peas. Plant sunflowers. They are so fast growing. Kids love the big ones. Plant them at least 12" apart.

Perennials & Annuals: Fertilize this month and keep 4" of mulch around the drip line (but keep mulch away from the trunk). Upper horizontal root-tops should almost show.

If you haven't applied your spring lawn fertilizer, apply one pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet soon. What does Texas A&M say about buying fertilizers? Check out their web site on this subject. From: http://aggieturf.tamu.edu/answers4you/fertilization.html

We can expect the average temperature in May to be about 85, so we are definitely into the watering season. Got a continuously wet spot in your yard? It is likely an irrigation valve leaking internally...far away from the actual soggy area.

Until next time, Happy Gardening!



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BONUS POINTS The Falls is zoned for the brand new **Grand Oaks High School** opening Fall 2018.



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EXTENSION HOSQUITO REPELLENTS

As mosquito season is ramping up, everyone is (hopefully) aware of possible disease transmission by mosquitoes. It is important that you protect yourself when spending time outside.

Activity times for mosquitoes can vary. Most people are familiar with the four D's- DRAIN (standing water), DEET (wear some repellent), DUSK & DAWN (stay indoors during dusk and dawn to avoid peak populations) and DRESS (wear long sleeves and long pants). While this is still good advice, it may be a good idea to spread the dress and repellent advice for anytime you spend time outdoors.

When outside, wear long pants and a long sleeved shirt in light colors to reduce the number of mosquitoes that can reach your skin. Repellent should only be applied to clothing and exposed skin. Do not apply repellent underneath clothing! If you want to apply repellent to your face, spray your hands with repellent and rub it onto your face. Do not spray repellent directly into your face or near eyes or mouth. Make sure to apply repellent outdoors. Do not allow children to handle repellents. Wash hands before eating, smoking or using the restroom. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends using a product registered with the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) containing one of the following active ingredients: DEET, picaridin, IR3535 and some of the products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus.

DEET, also known N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide or N,Ndiemethylbenzamide, was developed by the U.S. Army in 1946 to protect soldiers in insect-infested areas. Pesticides containing DEET have been used by the general public since 1957. Products containing DEET should not be used on children younger than 2 months of age (read the label and check with your pediatrician if you have questions). DEET has a slight odor and may have a greasy feel to some people. It may damage plastic, rubber, vinyl or synthetic fabrics. DEET may be irritating to the eyes and skin for some people. DEET comes in a wide variety of concentrations, so choose the one that will work best for your situation.

Picaridin was first made in the 1980's and resembles a natural compound called piperine (which is found in plants used to produce black pepper). Picardin has been used in Europe and Australia for *(Continued on Page 7)*



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many years, but has only been in the U.S. since 2005. Picaridin is non-greasy and is odorless.

IR-3535, or 3-[N-Butyl-N- acetyl]-aminopropionic acid, ethyl ester, was developed in the mid- 1970's and became registered for use in the U.S. in 1999. It is registered as a biopesticide by the EPA because it is functionally identical to a naturally occurring substance (an amino-acid). It may dissolve or damage plastics and may be irritating to the eyes.

Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or PMD (para-menthane-3,8-diol) are essentially the same thing; PMD is the synthesized (lab created) version of oil of lemon eucalyptus. "Pure" or "essential" oil of lemon eucalyptus is not labeled as a repellent and has not undergone testing and should not be used as a repellent product. OLE/PMD has been on the market in the U.S. since 2002. OLE/PMD should not be used on children younger than 3 years of age. The natural product (OLE) has known allergens within it while the synthetic version (PMD) has less of a risk to allergens. This product is classified as a biopesticide. OLE/PMD has a varying range of residual, some offering about 20 minutes of protection while other products may last up to two hours.

Many factors play into how long a repellent will last for a person. Some of these are:

- The concentration (or percent of active ingredient) of the
- product. You can find the percentage on the product label.
- Person's attractiveness. Some people are more attractive to

mosquitoes than others (and no scientific research has proven that it is because of eating garlic, taking vitamin B, using tobacco products, etc.). A person's genetic code plays a large part on what makes a person so attractive to mosquitoes.

- Frequency and uniformity of application. In other words, how often is the repellent applied and how good of coverage did you get?
- Activity level of the person. The more active the person is, the more sweat they produce which can cause the repellent to wash off the surface of the skin.

As a word of caution, there are products that combine sunscreen and insect repellent. The CDC recommends that if you need sunscreen and repellent, that you choose two separate products. Sunscreen should be applied more often than repellents.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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CAKE:

- 2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup canola oil
- 4 large eggs
- 2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 2 cup shredded carrots
- 1 cup Fisher Chopped Pecans

Carrot Bundt Cake

From: shugarysweets.com

Photograph: A portion of the frosting was left without nuts as a courtesy to one of the guests.

FILLING:

- 1 package (8oz) cream cheese, softened
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 large egg
- FROSTING:
- 4oz cream softened cheese
- 3 Tbsp milk
- 2 cup powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup Fisher Chopped Pecans

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Spray a 12 cup bundt pan generously with baking spray. Set aside.

2. In a large bowl, combined all the ingredients for the cake, mixing until well combined. The batter will be very thick! Set aside.

3. For the filling, beat cream cheese with sugar, vanilla, and egg until smooth and creamy. Set aside.

To assemble, fill the bottom of sprayed bundt pan with about 3/4 of the batter. Spoon the cream cheese into the pan, being careful not to let it touch the sides of the pan. Spoon the remaining batter over the cream cheese layer. It's okay if it doesn't cover completely.
 Bake cake in a preheated oven for 60-65 minutes. The cake will be browned and will pull away from the pan when done. Remove from oven and cool for 5-10 minutes before inverting onto a wire rack. Cool completely before frosting.

6. For the frosting, beat cream cheese, milk, and powdered sugar together until smooth and creamy. Pour frosting into a large Ziploc bag and snip off the corner. Pipe onto the cake, generously. Sprinkle immediately with chopped pecans. ENJOY!







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ACROSS

1. Catch in nylons 1. Male deer 5. Speed 2. Large African river 9. Station 3. Long time 10. Scoop out 4. Mediterranean island dwellers 11. Healing plant 5. IBM Competitor 12. Colder 6. Adios 13. Geneve 7. Sports shoe projection 15. Consume 8. Hz 16. Collective Israeli farm 10. Apt 18. Chewbacca's partner (2 wds.) 14. Purplish color 21. Card game 17. Candy 18. Woman 22. Legume 19. Negative battery terminal 26. Coding system 28. Portend 20. Averages 29. Induct 23. African nation 30. Look 24. Bored 31. Loch monster 25. Dregs 32. Opp. of yeses 27. Bro.'s sibling

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